

Shepherd's Voice

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Feeding bodies, minds and souls...

Volume 13 • Issue 9

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*October Newsletter
Articles
Due September 23*

September



**Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church**
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521
925-682-8410
gsconcord.com

Worship Schedule:
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Open the Doors

As children, many of you will remember the game we used to play with our hands clasped together in Sunday School, that goes like this:

Here's the church

Here's the steeple

Open the door and see all the people.

Well friends, we have a fantastic opportunity to "Open the Doors" and see all the people . . . and let them see us! As we celebrate 500 years since the Reformation, we'll have a celebration for people in our community that will go beyond our walls. An opportunity for all the people to come and join us, meet us, see who we are, and learn what we are about as a people of faith.

Maybe you have not been here at Good Shepherd for awhile. Come on over and join us, there will be food, carnival games, dancing to live music, time to sit and visit. Come and say "hi", have some fun, celebrate with us.

If you are a regular worshipper come! Maybe join the choir and get ready to sing on Reformation Sunday. Let's open the doors wide to joyful sounds of love for our Lutheran faith, for each other and especially for the Lord.

Invite people in our community to come to the Reformation Festival. Do you remember who first invited you to come to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church? Can you remember who first greeted you with a friendly hand shake and a welcoming smile the first time you entered our church?

Let's open our doors wide and share some new memories. It's a party and YOU are invited. Come and help out. Sit in a chair in one of the booths for an hour or two and meet and greet and share the love of Jesus we know to be true in our faith community. It is our chance to SHINE!

This is a moment we will not have again. The 500th Anniversary of a time that changed the world forever. Let's make it a special day in our lives and the lives of our neighbors. Let's open the doors and show the community who we are and invite them in to join us.

LET'S OPEN OUR DOORS! October 29 • 11:00 am to 4:00 pm



Reformation 500
1517-2017

Rev's Reflections

The season in the church year after Pentecost is commonly referred to as "Ordinary Time." The color of the paraments are green which symbolizes the renewal of vegetation, reminds us generally of living things, and ultimately green reminds us of the promise of new life. Who knew that so much could be seen in an ordinary color?

Our American culture is highlighted regularly by entertainment and celebrity. The one thing that our culture dreads is the ordinary life. For most "ordinary" is practically an insult. Ordinarity is not newsworthy which is why much of the media won't tell us "news" which doesn't shock, surprise, or entertain in some way. What is ordinary has to have a "spin" so that it is acceptable to the tastes of a consumer mentality that has been seduced to hunger for more than ordinary. This mindset sets us out seeking for God in the extraordinary.

However, God loves the ordinary. Rocks, waves, animals, people, "summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above," as one of my favorite hymns proclaims. God comes to us in the most ordinary of ways: water, spoken words, bread and wine, oil, the neighbor in need. In fact, God promises to come to us through those ordinary means. God desires for us to live in an ordinary way as family. We are brothers and sisters who love each other not because we are exciting, or capable of eliciting great feeling from one another, or incredibly talented and beautiful, but because loving each other is the only option in a world dying of selfishness, envy, greed, violence, and apathy toward the weak and powerless. God desires ordinary faithfulness in our relationships with kept promises, honored vows, dependability in small things. God desires ordinarity in God's church: daily prayer and meditation on the Scriptures, the weekly gathering on the Lord's day in which we assemble in God's house to break bread and share the mutual encouragement of the Word. God loved the ordinary.

We approach the midway point of the time after Pentecost—"Ordinary Time"—a time to grow in our faith. Planted seeds do not bear fruit over night, but over time. Our ordinary faithfulness will bear the fruit of the Spirit when God gives the increase. Thank God for his ordinary blessings in ordinary time for the ordinary people we really are.

Peace, Rev



Calling all Choir Members and Wanna-be-Choir Members, too!

Our first choir rehearsal will be on Sunday,
September 17 after worship.

September 24 we will meet at 8:00 a.m. to rehearse,
sing during the service, then rehearse after the service.

*The celebration of the Reformation will soon be here
and this would be a great time to come and sing with us!*

News from El Salvador!

School Days, School Days in San Salvador

Our sister parish in El Salvador has a school. Students pay \$13 per month (\$166 per year) to go to the school, but that's not enough to cover all the cost of educating a student. It cost over \$200 per student per year to run the school. I know that doesn't sound like a lot but the average salary for a professional in San Salvador is only about \$250 per month. And when you consider the school is in one of the poorest parts of town, help is needed to keep the school afloat and you can help.

Do you want to help?

Support one student by giving \$5 per month for one year or support a teacher's salary for one month by contributing \$20 a month for one year. Or contribute \$25 per month and support one student and one teacher. Get the satisfaction of knowing you are helping in some small way to help those less fortunate in El Salvador.

Just give to Good Shepherd and indicate that the monies you are contributing should go to 'El Salvador-School'. All monies contributed will be sent to Resurrection Lutheran Church to help them as they continue to educate students.

We are Helping Our Sister Parish

Good Shepherd Lutheran is following Christ's command to help feed the poor, cloth the naked and care for the sick. On our recent trip to San Salvador (July 29 to August 7) we took the following:

- Four large suitcases of new and slightly used clothing,
- Four lap top computers,
- \$1,000 for the medical and dental clinic to buy supplies,
- \$200 for supplies for Sunday School, and
- \$200 for Hope house that feeds the homeless.

The used clothing we took went to the rural areas where it will be distributed by pastors who are familiar with the needs of the people. The lap top computers will be used at the church to help young people become more familiar with current computer technology. Monies for supplies were taken so people in San Salvador could purchase exactly what they wanted and we avoided charges for overweight luggage.

Bishop Medardo Gomez was very appreciative of Good Shepherd's contribution to "Raising the Roof" and the clothing, lap tops and the monies we gave our sister parish on this visit.

Thank you!

September Birthdays

Karin Bohling	03
Hayley Rodemsky	03
Kai Patrick	06
Joan Filibert	14
Pat Brack	17
Greg Buchholz	20
James Christiana	26
Delphia Rue	26



Leisure Lunch is Back!

Leisure Lunchers resume their monthly luncheons in September!

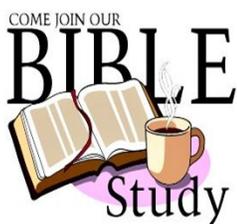
Mark your calendar and please join us on September 19 & October 17 .
Our November and December luncheons are combined into one date;
December 5 (a very festive Leisure Lunch!).

We meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month from Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Anyone who is available can come;
simply bring your appetite and enjoy some fun and fellowship!

Please call Susan or Bob Ripley at 925-827-9717 for any questions.

Ruth Circle Bible Study Returns

We will be studying the first article of the Apostles Creed, which was developed as a teaching tool for faith. Please join us for this discussion.
Coffee/tea & snacks will precede the study.



WE MEET THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th IN
FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 10:00am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS from SUMMER BREAK!

As the evenings begin to cool and summer turns to fall,
it is time to announce the date for SUNDAY SCHOOL to begin.

Sunday School will begin with a fun activity on
Sunday, Sept. 10 AND officially will begin on Sunday, Sept.17.

All GSLC children and their friends are welcome to join us!
Questions: Please ask Sandra Berard or Jessica Serrano.



Assisting Ministers ~ October 1 Training at 11:45 a.m.

Have you ever thought you would like to serve as an Assisting Minister?
Did you know there is now a rail at the back of the altar to help with the steps?
Please ponder and pray, then attend the training with Rev on October 1.

Council President News

Hello everyone, here are some highlights from our Church Council meeting on July 11th.

- Recognitions:
 - o Joe Carlson for his assistance with the repair of the pipe organ.
 - o Kay Bennett for everything she does around Good Shepherd!
 - o Everyone who helped with the Lois Berg memorial reception.
 - o Jim Olson for replacing the door at Pioneer House.
 - o Jamie Rodemsky for installing the irrigation timer for the newly planted trees at the upper parking lot.
- Please mark your calendars for the Blood Drive, Friday, October 6. Thanks to Candace Bradley and the Social Ministry Committee for arranging this event. *(See page 6 for further information.)*
- As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, our offerings are still well behind of what has been pledged. This is just a friendly reminder that Good Shepherd operates on a balanced budget that is based on the total amount of monies pledged. Please keep this in mind as the year goes on so that we do not end up the year trying to overcome a deficit.
- Good Shepherd will be sad to see Kelly and Robert Schaefer leave as they relocate to the northwest. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe move and a smooth transition. Also, thanks to Kelly for chairing the Fellowship Committee, she has been doing a wonderful job! I would like to ask that everyone please consider stepping up to take over this important, active and fun committee.
- A reminder that full minutes of our Council meetings are posted on the Good Shepherd website.

In God's Peace,
Greg Buchholz, Council President

Wedding Anniversaries

Michael and Sherry
Chaplain
September 1, 1977

Steve and Joann
Rossi
September 15, 1984

Robert and Kelly
Schaefer
September 16, 2000

James and Kristie
Gray
September 19, 1992

Dave and Marcy
Munson
September 21, 1963

Mark and Dana
Deniston
September 24, 1988

Jon and Heidi
Moss
September 27, 1997



CONTRA COSTA CROP HUNGER WALK

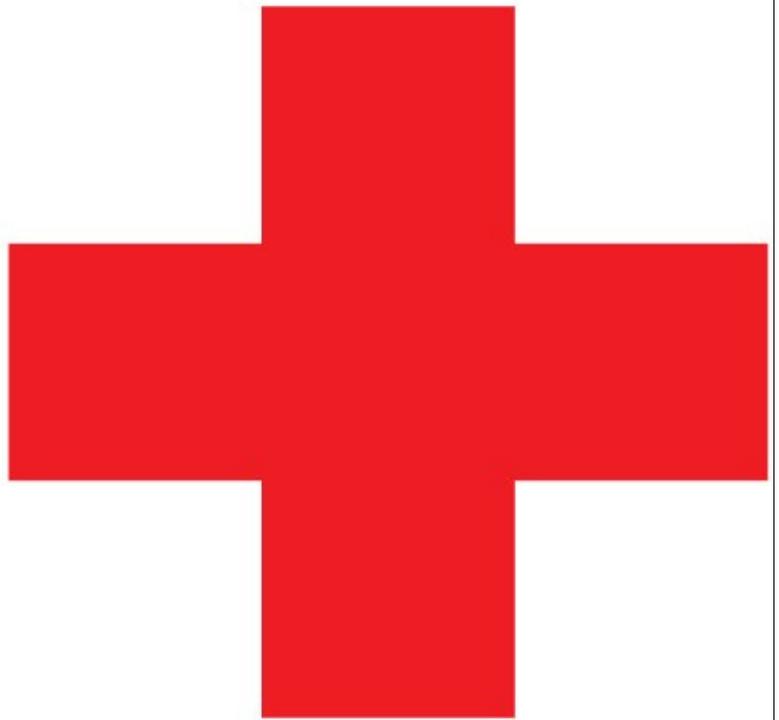
Sunday, October 15, 2017

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/walnutcreekca/> (925.325.8822)

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fellowship Hall
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521

Friday, October 6, 2017
2:00 PM to 7:00 PM

To schedule your appointment, please log on to redcrossblood.org, enter the Sponsor Code: GSCONCORD or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility to donate blood, please call 1-866-236-3276.

Identification is required.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

Friends Feeding Friends

An outreach ministry of Good Shepherd that serves the needy in our county

Sarah Jean's
Dream at age 4

—
“So people who
are really hungry
have food.”



For we are
God's
workmanship
created in
Christ Jesus to
do good works,
which God
prepared in
advance for us
to do.
Ephesians
2:10

Friends Feeding Friends Highlights for the Past Month

1558 Families helped
1731 Bags of food distributed
1856 People helped with groceries
178 Hot Meals served

Highlights:

- It was another busy month for FFF, especially on the food distribution side.
- We were blessed this month to have volunteers from Good Shepherd, Life Church, Valley Christian, Clayton Community Church, Clayton Valley Church, Rossmoor, Berean and Tabernacle School.

Next Shelter Lunch: September 16, 2017: 9:00 at Good Shepherd to prep. All are welcome!!

Items needed this month:

- Travel size grooming supplies
- Washcloths
- Bath towels and dish towels

You can contact us at friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com or friendsfeedingfriend-sca@gmail.com, and we are on the church website at <http://gsconcord.com/outreach-ministries/friends-feeding-friends/>

Ordering on Amazon.com? Don't forget to go to smile.amazon.com first and specify The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Concord.



We thought it would be fun to look back at some pictures from FFF's early years back when we served a free lunch at the park. We used to serve seniors, families, homeless, and anyone else who was hungry. It was a big effort but a blessing to all of us!!

Diablo Valley Literacy Council - Fall Training

You can change a life!

Volunteer to Help Adults Learn English as a Second Language



- No teaching experience required
- English need not be your first language
- You can help people...
 - Get a better job
 - Apply for citizenship
 - Read to their children
 - There are so many possibilities!

The ESL Tutor Training Workshop

**Presented by
Diablo Valley Literacy Council**

We will train you, match you to a student and help you get started with your one-on-one tutoring sessions. Tutors must attend both Saturday sessions.

We ask you to commit to one or two hours of tutoring each week.

Work Shop Location

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at
4000 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA 94521**

Dates and Times

**Sat. September 30, 2017 9 am - 1:00 pm
& Sat. October 7, 2017 9 am - 1:00 pm**

Registration and Fee

- Pre-registration required.
- \$ 20 non-refundable registration fee

To pre-register or request information

Call the message line at (925) 685-3881 or e-mail us at dvlc4esl@gmail.com

To Register online--Just click--VOLUNTEER TO TUTOR at our Website dvlc4esl.org

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>9:00 a.m. Sunday Schedule:</u> 9:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:15 a.m. Sunday School (Rm 3) Oct. 17 0:45 a.m. Coffee (FH) 12:30 p.m. Lighthouse (FH) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)</p>					1	2
<p>3 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.</p>	<p>4 Labor Day Observance </p>	<p>5 7:30 p.m. GSLC Book Club (FR)</p>	<p>6 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)</p>	<p>7 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 5:00 p.m. Finance –Office 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm. 3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	8	9
<p>10 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>13 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)</p>	<p>14 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board (FH) 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (FH) 3:45 p.m. Worship & Music 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	15	<p>16 9:00 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kit)</p>
<p>17 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above. Stewardship Meeting right after worship. (Office)</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Noon Leisure Lunch (FH) 7:00 p.m. Long Range/Property (FH)</p>	<p>20 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)</p>	<p>21 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse Chu 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	<p>22 Newsletter Articles Due</p>	<p>23 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study (Kitchen)</p>
<p>24 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)</p>	<p>28 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse Chu 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	29	<p>30 9:00 a.m. DVLC Fall Training (FH) Part I</p>
<p>CH = Church FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room</p>						

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

2017 Executive Committee:

President: Greg Buchholz, **Vice President:** Sue Hertless, **Secretary:** John Mott
Member-at-Large: Adam Castle

2017 Congregational Council

Rebecca Berg, Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Adam Castle, Tyler Costa,
Sue Hertless, Joseph Husary, Nancy Judge, John Mott, Tony Rogelstad, Kelly Schaefer

Ministry Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Serrano - rev@gsconcord.com
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Organist: Gloria Chuang
Interim Choir Director: Emilie Patton
Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com
Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com
Treasurer: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Financial Secretary: Vicki Smiglewski

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

4000 Clayton Road

Concord, CA 94521



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church exists to **reach** out in Jesus name and **gather** in deep community,
to **learn** and grow into God's Kingdom, to **serve** our neighbor